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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/915,609	07/26/2001	Emek Sadot	501022-A-01-US (Sadot)	6788
7590 04/07/2005			EXAMINER	
Docket Administrator (Room 1L-202) Avaya Inc. 101 Crawfords Corner Road P.O. Box 629 Holmdel, NJ 07733			SHIN, KYUNG H	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2143	
DATE MAILED: 04/07/2005				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/915,609	Applicant(s) SADOT ET AL.	
	Examiner Kyung H Shin	Art Unit 2143	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 July 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responding to application papers filed 7/26/2001.
2. Claims **1 - 22** are pending. Independent claims are **1, 19**.

Claim Rejection - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. **Claims 1 - 5, 7 - 12, 14 - 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brendel (US Patent No. 6,772,333) in view of Choquier et al. (US Patent No. 5,774,668).**

Regarding Claim 1, Brendel discloses a method of load balancing messages to servers of a server farm, by a load balancer, comprising:

- b) determining, by the load balancer, for at least some client messages including a non-empty session ID field, which server or sub-group of servers is associated with the ID in the ID field, responsive to the configured information; (see Brendel col. 5, lines 61-67: determine designated server from multiple server for client-server message processing) and

- c) selecting, by the load balancer, a server to receive each of the at least some client messages, at least partially responsive to the determination.
(see Brendel col. 9, lines 2-7: load balancer extracts session ID and server information for client-server message processing)
- a) Brendel does not disclose the setup of information used generating session ID values. However, Choquier discloses configuring the load balancer with information on the session ID values which may be assigned by at least one of the servers; (see Choquier col. 15, lines 28-41: load management system utilizing a range of values assigned to each entity (i.e. server, processor) and utilized in the generation of a calculated ID value (i.e. session ID or session information))

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Brendel to utilize a range of values to be used generating session ID values for a load management system as taught by Choquier. One of ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to employ Choquier in order to efficiently balance message processing load among a set of servers. (see Choquier col. 1, lines 54-58: “ ... *mechanisms for dynamically balancing the processing load among the application servers ... mechanisms for dynamically allocating processing resources ... so that fluctuations in usage levels ... can be efficiently accommodated...*”)

Regarding Claim 2, Brendel discloses managing a table which lists for at least one of the servers or sub-groups of servers a table of session IDs utilized in the

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load management of a plurality of servers. (see Brendel col. 5, lines 46-49; col. 5, lines 61-67: session ID label utilized for management of client-server message) Brendel does not specifically disclose a range of values for session IDs utilized managing system load capabilities. However, Choquier discloses a method according to claim 1, wherein configuring the load balancer comprises a range of values from which the server may assign session IDs. (see Choquier col. 15, lines 28-41: a load management system utilizing of a range of values assigned to each entity (i.e. CPU, server, processor) within a group; values utilized in the generation of a calculated value (i.e. session ID, server information))

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Brendel to utilize a range of values to be used generating session ID values for a load management system as taught by Choquier. One of ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to employ Choquier in order to efficiently balance message processing load among a set of servers. (see Choquier col. 1, lines 54-58)

Regarding Claim 3, Brendel discloses a method according to claim 1, wherein configuring the load balancer comprises managing a table which lists for at least one of the servers or sub-groups of servers, one or more values of a sub-set of the bits of session IDs associated with the server. (see Brendel col. 9, lines 7-10; col. 15, lines 4-4: server ID information encoded within session ID field, sub-group of servers to process session ID messages)

Regarding Claim 4, Brendel discloses a method according to claim 1, wherein configuring the load balancer comprises providing a function which correlates between session IDs and the server which assigned the session ID. (see Brendel col. 7, lines 41-50; col. 7, lines 61-64: atomic operation (i.e. function) managing session IDs indicating assigned server to process client requests)

Regarding Claim 5, Brendel discloses a method according to claim 1, comprising configuring at least one of the servers with a rule on the session ID values it may assign to sessions. (see Brendel col. 8, lines 35-42: designation or means (i.e. rule) to uniquely generate a session ID for session identification)

Regarding Claim 7, Brendel does not disclose configuration information transmitted to a server for client-server message processing. However, Choquier discloses a method according to claim 5, wherein configuring the load balancer comprises configuring automatically by a module running on the load balancer, which transmits configuration instructions to at least one of the servers. (see Choquier col. 15, lines 28-41: load management system utilizing configuration information (i.e. range of values) for an entity (i.e. server, processor); values utilized in the generation of a calculated value (i.e. session ID, server information))

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Brendel to utilize a range of values to be used

generating session ID values for a load management system as taught by Choquier. One of ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to employ Choquier in order to efficiently balance message processing load among a set of servers. (see Choquier col. 1, lines 54-58)

Regarding Claim 8, Brendel discloses a method according to claim 7, wherein configuring automatically by the load balancer comprises configuring responsive to input received from the at least one of the servers. (see Brendel col. 8, lines 16-18: session ID generated by server based on means, transmitted to load balancer for placement in session ID table)

Regarding Claim 9, Brendel discloses a method according to claim 5, wherein configuring at least one of the servers comprises configuring substantially all the servers in the farm with respective sub-groups of allowed session IDs which do not include common session IDs. (see Brendel col. 4, lines 29-32: unique session IDs generated for usage within load management system)

Regarding Claim 10, Brendel discloses using a load balancer and at least one server in a load management system. (see Brendel col. 9, line 63 - col. 10, line 4: client-server message processing system utilizing session ID table) Brendel does not disclose a subset of available session IDs not assigned to any servers. However, Choquier discloses a method according to claim 9, wherein at least some of a plurality of available session IDs are not assigned to any of the

servers. (see Choquier col. 15, lines 28-41: a load management system utilizing of a range of values assigned to each entity (i.e. CPU, server, processor) within a group; values utilized in the generation of a calculated value (i.e. session ID, session information))

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Brendel to utilize a range of values used generating session ID values and selecting a subset of values not available for assignment by servers as taught by Choquier. One of ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to employ Choquier in order to efficiently balance message processing load among a set of servers. (see Choquier col. 1, lines 54-58)

Regarding Claim 11, Brendel discloses a method according to claim 9, wherein configuring substantially all the servers comprises assigning substantially a same number of session IDs to each of the servers. (see Choquier col. 15, lines 28-41: a load management system utilizing of a range of values and a number of values assigned to each entity (i.e. server, processor); values utilized in the generation of a calculated value (i.e. session ID, session information))

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Brendel to utilize a range of values used generating session ID values utilized in a load management system and selecting a number of values for each entity as taught by Choquier. One of ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to employ Choquier in order to efficiently balance message processing load among a set of servers. (see

Choquier col. 1, lines 54-58)

Regarding Claim 12, Brendel discloses using a configured load balancer and at least one server in a load management system. (see Brendel col. 9, line 63 - col. 10, line 4: client-server message processing utilizing session ID table for load management) However, Choquier discloses a method according to claim 9, wherein configuring substantially all the servers comprises assigning different numbers of session IDs to at least two of the servers. (see Choquier col. 15, lines 28-41: a load management system utilizing of a range of values and selecting a different number of values for two entities (i.e. server, processor); values utilized in the generation of a calculated value (i.e. session ID, session information))

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Brendel to utilize a range of values used generating session ID values utilized in a load management system as taught by Choquier. One of ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to employ Choquier in order to efficiently balance message processing load among a set of servers. (see Choquier col. 1, lines 54-58)

Regarding Claim 14, Brendel discloses a method according to claim 1, wherein selecting a server to receive a client message comprises selecting a server which assigned the session ID of the message. (see Brendel col. 5, lines 61-67: client request directed to assigned server based on session ID value)

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Regarding Claim 15, Brendel discloses a method according to claim 1, wherein selecting a server to receive a client message comprises selecting a server in a sub-group of servers which shares information with a server which assigned the session ID of the message. (see Brendel col. 5, lines 46-49; col. 14, lines 55-63: client requests directed to assigned server based on session ID, single server or a set of servers selected to process client requests)

Regarding Claim 16, Brendel discloses a method according to claim 1, wherein the client messages comprise SSL client messages. (see Brendel col. 7, lines 26-31: SSL technology utilized in message processing)

Regarding Claim 17, Brendel discloses a method according to claim 1, wherein the session ID values comprise application layer ID values. (see Brendel col. 5, lines 13-17: application aware load balancer looks within IP packets data payload for useful information (i.e. session ID value) for load management system)

Regarding Claim 18, Brendel discloses a method according to claim 1, additionally comprising managing a list of ID values actually assigned by one or more servers and determining, by the load balancer, for at least some client messages including a non-empty session ID field, which server or sub-group of servers is associated with the ID in the ID field, responsive to the managed list. (see Brendel col. 9, line 63 - col. 10, line 4; col. 15, lines 4-4: load balancer utilizing a list of session IDs to enable efficient system load management)

Regarding Claim 19, Brendel discloses a load balancer, comprising:

- b) an input interface adapted to receive client messages; (see col. 6, lines 1-3: network interface for communications between load balancer, clients, servers) and
- c) a load balancing unit which is adapted to select a server to receive at least one of the client messages, at least partially responsive to the contents of the memory unit, and to forward the at least one of the client messages to the selected server. (see col. 9, line 63 - col. 10, line 4: client message directed to assigned server)
- a) Brendel does not specifically disclose a range of values for session IDs utilized managing system load capabilities. However, Choquier discloses a memory unit adapted to store configured information on session ID values which may be assigned by at least one of the servers; (see Choquier col. 15, lines 28-41: a load management system utilizing a range of values assigned to each entity (i.e. CPU, server, processor) within a group; values utilized in the generation of a calculated value (i.e. session ID, session information))

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Brendel to utilize a range of values used generating session ID values utilized in a load management system as taught by Choquier. One of ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to employ Choquier in order to efficiently balance message processing load among a set of servers.

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(see Choquier col. 1, lines 54-58)

Regarding Claim 20, Brendel discloses a load balancer according to claim 19, comprising a configuration module adapted to store the configured information in the memory unit. (see Brendel col. 9, lines 17-22: session ID table information for load-balancer (i.e. configuration module) stored (i.e. disk or memory) within server system)

Regarding Claim 21, Brendel discloses generating a session ID used in message processing for a client by one or more servers. (see Brendel col. 7, lines 40-44: load-balancer (i.e. configuration module) utilizing instruction (i.e. atomic operation) for generation of session IDs) Brendel does disclose a range or set of session ID values which may be used for client-server message processing. However, Choquier discloses a load balancer according to claim 20, wherein the configuration module is adapted to generate instructions directed to one or more servers on the session ID values they may use. (see Choquier col. 15, lines 28-41: a load management system utilizing a range of values assigned to each entity (i.e. server, processor); values utilized in the generation of a calculated value (i.e. session ID, session information))

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Brendel to utilize a range of values used generating session ID values utilized in a load management system as taught by Choquier. One of ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to employ Choquier

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in order to efficiently balance message processing load among a set of servers.

(see Choquier col. 1, lines 54-58)

Regarding Claim 22, Brendel discloses a load balancer according to claim 19, wherein the load balancing unit comprises a comparator adapted to compare at least a portion of at least one of the fields of received client messages to information stored in the memory unit. (see Brendel col. 9, line 65 - col. 10, line 2: compare (i.e. comparator) session ID in client message to a value in session ID table)

5. Claims 6, 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brendel-Choquier and further in view of Baker et al. (US Patent No. 6,611,498).

Regarding Claim 6, Brendel discloses using a configured load balancer and at least one server in a load management system. (see Brendel col. 9, line 63 - col. 10, line 4: client-server message processing utilizing session ID table) Brendel does not specifically disclose a user interface used to configure the load balancer. However, Baker discloses a method according to claim 5, wherein configuring the load balancer comprises configuring through a user interface, which configures responsive to user instructions. (see Baker col. 16, lines 56-59; col. 17, lines 4-11; col. 1, lines 22-27; col. 2, line 67 - col. 3, line 4: system manager via user interface utilized to manage load management system within a

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client-server environment)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Brendel to utilize a user interface to configure and manage a system load mechanism and server systems as taught by Baker. One of ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to employ Baker in order to provide expedient, comprehensive and secure access to client-server message processing. (see Baker col. 2, lines 6-11: “ ... *provides expedient, comprehensive and more secure data access and reporting services to customers ...* ”)

Regarding Claim 13, Brendel discloses using a configured load balancer and at least one server in a load management system. (see Brendel col. 9, line 63 - col. 10, line 4: client-server message processing utilizing session ID table) Brendel does not specifically disclose a user interface to configure load balancer. However, Baker discloses a method according to claim 1, wherein configuring the load balancer comprises configuring by a system manager. (see Baker col. 16, lines 56-59; col. 17, lines 4-11; col. 1, lines 22-27; col. 2, line 67 - col. 3, line 4: system manager via user interface utilized to manage load management system within a client-server environment)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Brendel to utilize a user interface or system manager to configure a system load mechanism and server systems as taught by Baker. One of ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to employ Baker in

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order to provide expedient, comprehensive and secure access to client-server message processing. (see Baker col. 2, lines 6-11)

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kyung H Shin whose telephone number is (571) 272-3920. The examiner can normally be reached on 9 am - 7 pm.

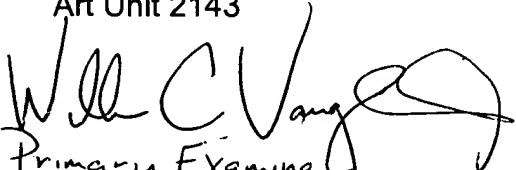
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David A Wiley can be reached on (571) 272-3923. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

K H S

Kyung H Shin
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2143

KHS
Apr 1, 2005


Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2143
William C. Vaughan